

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method of increasing the available storage space on an electronic storage medium comprising the steps of:

~~providing~~ creating and storing in a memory a free memory list for the electronic storage medium; ~~the free memory list identifying at least one free portion of memory;~~

selecting a first portion of a file stored on the electronic storage medium; and

copying ~~adding~~ the selected first portion of the file to the free memory list without copying a second portion of the file and leaving a deallocated portion of memory corresponding to the first portion.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the file is an audio file or a video file.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the selecting the first portion of the file stored on the electronic storage medium creates a plurality of file segments.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 further comprising the step of linking the plurality of file segments together.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the file is a video file.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the electronic storage medium is a memory of a personal video recorder.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the electronic storage medium is a memory of a personal video recorder.

8. (Currently amended) A method of increasing the available storage space on a personal video recorder comprising the steps of:

storing a first media file on a memory of the personal video recorder;

receiving a signal for marking a starting flag for the first media file, the starting flag indicating a starting point located anywhere in the first media file;

receiving a signal for marking an ending flag for the first media file, the ending flag indicating an ending point located anywhere in the first media file; and

deleting the portion of the first media file ~~freeing the memory of the personal video recorder that contains a portion of the media file~~ between the starting flag and the ending flag;

selecting a second portion of the first media file;

providing a second media file; and

copying the second portion of the first media file to the second media file.

9-10. (Cancelled).

11. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the marking of the start flag comprises marking a first presentation time stamp and wherein the marking of the end flag comprises marking a second presentation time stamp.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
associating a first full frame image with the first presentation time stamp;
associating a second full frame image with the second presentation time stamp.

13. (Currently amended) A method of increasing the available storage space on a personal video recorder comprising the steps of:

searching for a start program time stamp marking a starting point located anywhere in a first video file;

searching for a first full image frame related to the start program time stamp;

searching for an end program time stamp marking an ending point located anywhere in the first video file;

searching for a second full image frame related to the end program time stamp; and

deleting a portion of the first video file between the first full image frame and the second full image frame;

selecting a second portion of the first video file;

providing a second video file; and

copying the second portion of the first video file to the second video file.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the step of deleting a portion of the first video file creates a plurality of video segments.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 14 wherein the deleting comprises removing at least a portion of a commercial within the first video file.